# Report of the Library of Virginia
# on Progress toward Addressing the Impact of an Aging Population on library services
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# October 18, 2006

In compliance with § 2.2-5510 (A.4.) of the Code of Virginia, the Library of Virginia submits the following report on its progress for addressing the impact of the aging population on its ability to deliver services:

1.      The Library of Virginia has conducted a review of its reading room facility and equipment to assess its compliance with best ADA practices.  Recommendations of the consultant who conducted the review have been implemented.  Many disabilities exhibited by Library patrons are age-related.

2.      The Information Technology staff of the Library has reviewed all facets of the Library's web site to ensure that it, too, is ADA compliant.

3.      Staff of the Library of Virginia have offered several special tours during the past year for senior citizen groups interested in learning more about the Library's collections.  When a senior group is not able to come to the Library, staff have gone to other locations to speak on a variety of history and genealogy related topics.  Several staff members have made presentations this past year in the continuing education programs offered by the Shepherd's Center of Richmond.

4.      The Library of Virginia offers free-of-charge, round-the-clock access to a wide array of electronic information resources to all Virginians, who can look for information from any computer connected to the Internet simply by logging on entering their public library card number.  Among the many resources that citizens can access are numerous health and medical publications, which are extremely beneficial to older citizens in particular.

5.      The Library has begun to explore how it might resume digitization of unique Virginia materials in its collections that could be available to researchers through the Library's web site.  There are heavy costs associated with this endeavor, but older Virginians in particular who are not always able to drive downtown are heavy users of the digital collections that the Library mounted on its web site several years ago when funding for this was available.  The Library hopes to have a plan to resume new digital projects within the coming year.